GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3684
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
UNIFORM WELFARE PACKAGE FOR WAR CASUALTIES
Khan Shri Sunil

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army has sought a Uniform Welfare Package from the Government for all battle casualties on par with much higher amounts given to the next of kin of the five hundred twenty seven (527) soldiers killed and around one thousand four hundred (1400) wounded during Kargil Conflict; and

(b) if so, the reasons for distinction between casualties in war and these arising out of counter insurgency operations on the basis of different level of risk, intensity of action and the like?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the matter of payment of ex-gratia lump sum compensation a distinction has been made between casualties in war/war like engagements and those arising out of border skirmishes and action against militants, terrorists, extremists etc.It is essential to distinguish between international war/war like engagements and border skirmishes/action against militants, terrorists, extremists etc. keeping in view the intensity of operations and the levels of risks involved. Since the rigour involved in war/war like engagements is much more severe as compared to other operations, there is a need for maintaining a differential in the matter of ex-gratia payments.